IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL WRIT PETITION NO.1307 OF 2007

Ismail Raju Ajmeri @ Isala .. Petitioner
V/s
Union of India & Anr. .. Respondents

Mr.D.Banerji i/by Mr.Ganesh Gole for the Petitioner.
Mr.A.R.Patil, APP for State.

CORAM : DR.S.RADHAKRISHNAN, &
SMT.R.S.DALVI, JJ.

DATE : 24th August, 2007.

P.C.:

1. Heard the learned Counsel for the Petitioner and the learned APP for the State. By this petition, the Petitioner is seeking a very limited relief of expeditious hearing of the NDPS Special Case No.25 of 2006 which was orignally the NDPS Special Case No.96/2002. It appears that at the relevant time the present Accused was in custody in another case, and therefore, at that time, in view of an order of this Court, the case of the other Accused was separated from that of the present Accused, and was proceeded with, and the only trial with regard to the case of the present Accused is pending.

2. The learned Counsel for the Applicant makes a plea that the Applicant (the original Accused No.3) has been in custody for the last five years, and in the larger interest of justice the hearing of NDPS Special Case No.25/2006 (with regard to the present Applicant-Accused) should be expedited.

3. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of this case, and in the larger interest of justice, the hearing of NDPS Special Case No.25 of 2006 is expedited, and the learned Trial Judge is directed to dispose of the same as expeditiously as possible, preferrably within a period of six months from today.

(SMT.R.S.DALVI, J.) **(DR.S.RADHAKRISHNAN,J.)**